

## **AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 12 bridging page 10, line 9 as follows:

The core may be formed from any fiber-forming polyamide or copolyamide. Fiber-forming polyamides suitable for the core include polymers having, as an integral part of the polymer backbone chain, recurring amide groups (-CO-NR-) where R is an alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, or alkynyl substituent. Non-limiting examples of such polyamides include homopolyamides and copolyamides which are obtained by the polymerization of lactam or aminocaproic acid or a copolymerization product from any of the possible permutative mixtures of diamines, dicarboxylic acids or lactams. The core may be an acid-dyeable polyamide such as a polyamide having amine end groups available as dye sites. Possibly, the core may be a basic-dyeable polyamide, such as made when polyamide forming monomers are polymerized in the presence of anionic groups such as sulfonated monomers. Such polyamides and methods of forming them are well known to those ordinarily skilled in the art and are generally among the class of polyamides having 15 or less carbon atoms in a repeating unit (or monomer in the case of mixed monomer starting materials). More preferably, the polyamide will have less than seven carbon atoms in the repeating unit such as in nylon 6. Other polyamides such as nylon 6/6, nylon 12, nylon 11, nylon 6/12, nylon 6/10, etc., that for some reason have been modified so that they have become stainable with acid dyes or coffee, may be used. Most preferably, the core polyamide is nylon 6 or nylon 6/6. Possibly, the core polyamide may have an amine end-group content of from greater than about 5 milliequivalents per kilogram (meq/kg) to less than about 100 milliequivalents per kilogram, ~~more~~

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Serial No. 10/059,364  
June 15, 2006

preferably from about 10 to about 100 meq/kg, and more preferably from  
about 20 to about 50 milliequivalents per kilogram.